

10/501197

DT04 Rec'd PCT/PTO 09 JUL 2004 EPO - DG 1
10 12 2003
(108)

New Page 19

New Claims

1. A device for packaging substantially platelike information carriers, provided with a first and a second cover part, wherein at least one of the cover parts is provided with receiving means for engaging and locking at least one information carrier, which receiving means comprise at least two guide
- 5 elements, which can guide and lock at least a portion of an outer edge of the information carrier, such that during use the information carrier can be slid-
- into or under the guide elements, while the information carrier can be taken
- 10 out of the package by sliding it approximately parallel to its surface and approximately parallel to the respective cover part, characterized in that the or
- each cover part in which the receiving means are provided has such dimensions that at least one information carrier is positionable thereon in a free position, at least partly next to the receiving means, and is subsequently slidable along the cover part into the receiving means to a lock position.
2. A device according to claim 1, wherein at least one resilient element is
- 15 provided, which, when an information carrier has been received in the device, engages against a longitudinal edge of the information carrier, while the information carrier can be taken out of the package by sliding it approximately parallel to its surface and approximately parallel to the respective cover part, while elastically deforming the at least one resilient element.
- 20 3. A device according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the guide elements comprise rail-shaped elements, dimensioned and positioned such that an information carrier can be slid into them by at least a portion of its longitudinal edge, with a sliding fit or with minor clearance with respect to the dimensions of the information carrier.
- 25 4. A device according to claim 3, arranged for receiving substantially circular, platelike information carriers such as CDs, wherein the rail-shaped

AMENDED SHEET

10 12 2000

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

elements are slightly curved, having a bend radius substantially corresponding to the radius of the information carriers to be received, and each include a circular segment, which rail-shaped elements are disposed approximately symmetrically with respect to a first axial line, along an imaginary circle approximately corresponding to the outer contour of the information carrier to be received, such that the information carrier is slidable into the rail-shaped elements from an infeed side and the possible displacement is limited by the rail-shaped elements.

5. A device according to claim 4, wherein adjacent the infeed side at least one resilient element is provided for locking an information carrier in the rail-shaped elements, which resilient elements, when an information carrier has been received in the rail-shaped elements, are positioned on the side of a second axial line, extending at right angles to the first axial line, of the information carrier, remote from the rail-shaped elements.

6. A device according to claim 5, wherein the or each resilient element, when an information carrier has been received in the rail-shaped elements, lies at a small distance from or against the longitudinal edge of the information carrier, while the or each resilient element is at least substantially not deformed, such that substantially without stress the information carrier is locked and is substantially secured against movement in the receiving means.

7. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the or each respective cover part is at least partly provided with an upstanding longitudinal edge, while during use an information carrier is slidable within the longitudinal edge between the free position and the received position.

8. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the receiving means are designed such that an information carrier received therein has at least the greater part of its approximately flat outer side held in spaced relation from the cover parts, both in the open and in the closed condition of the device.

9. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the cover parts are mutually connected by a back, while at least one of the cover parts and preferably both cover parts are connected with the back through hinge means, the device being preferably manufactured by injection molding
5 from plastic with integrally injection molded hinges (living hinges).

10. A device according to claim 9, wherein the receiving means define a sliding direction for the information carrier for placing the information carrier
in the receiving means or removing it therefrom, which sliding direction extends substantially parallel to the longitudinal direction of the back.

10 11. A device according to claim 9, wherein the receiving means define a sliding direction for the information carrier for placing the information carrier
in the receiving means or removing it therefrom, which sliding direction extends substantially at right angles to the longitudinal direction of the back.

12. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the
15 receiving means are arranged for receiving at least two information carriers on at least one of the cover parts, in particular approximately above each other.

13. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the thickness of the device in closed position is less than 9 mm, in particular less than 8 mm.

20 14. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the device has outside dimensions, at least at right angles to the thickness, which correspond approximately to the dimensions of a standard DVD box (about 135 x 190 mm).

15. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein an
25 information carrier is positionable in a first, free position on a cover part, wherein means are provided for supporting the information carrier on a part of at least one outer surface, located adjacent the outer longitudinal edge, in particular a part that is free of electronic information, such that the further respective outer surface is held in spaced relation from the cover part, while

the information carrier is slidable to a lock position in the receiving means, without said outer surface coming into contact with said cover part.

16. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the first and the second cover part are provided with receiving means.

5 17. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the receiving means are provided in, on or as an inlay, secured onto or in at least one of the cover parts.

18. A device according to claim 17, wherein it is designed as a Jewel case-type package.

10 19. A device according to claim 17 or 18, wherein it is substantially of a design of the size of a DVD box, in particular approximately 185 x 190 mm.

20. A device according to any one of claims 17-19, wherein inlay means are included for receiving at least two information carriers, in particular two types of information carriers.

15 21. A device according to any one of claims 5-20, wherein the or each resilient element is provided with a foot part attached to the respective cover part or the inlay, such that upon sliding the information carrier in or out, the foot part deforms elastically in a direction which includes an angle between 5 and 90° with the plane of the information carrier.

20 22. A device for packaging substantially platelike information carriers, provided with a first and second cover part, characterized in that at least one of the cover parts is provided with an inlay with receiving means for engaging and locking at least one information carrier, such that during use the information carrier can be brought into and out of the receiving means by
25 sliding it approximately parallel to its surface.

23. An inlay for use in a device according to any one of claims 17-22.

24. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the inlay comprises an edge on which the receiving means are secured, while at least within the edge an opening is provided.

25. A device according to claim 24, wherein the inlay is secured on a cover part, for instance through gluing, such that said cover part is visible in said opening.

26. A device according to claim 24 or 25, wherein the cover parts have
5 been folded from plate material such as cardboard or plastic.

~~27. A device according to any one of claims 24-26, wherein said cover part is transparent, such that an information carrier is visible through said opening.~~

28. A method for filling a device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the device in open position is presented to a filling apparatus,
10 whereafter with the filling apparatus an information carrier is brought above or against a cover part and is subsequently moved approximately parallel to its surface, along the respective cover part, into receiving means arranged thereon.

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☐ BLACK BORDERS
- ☐ IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- ☐ FADED TEXT OR DRAWING
- ☒ BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING
- ☐ SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- ☐ COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS
- ☐ GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS
- ☒ LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT
- ☐ REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY
- ☐ OTHER: _____

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.